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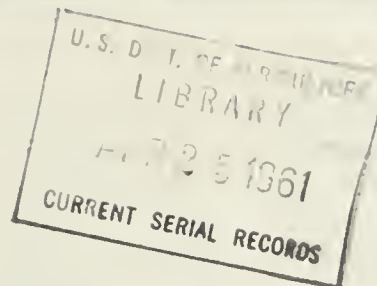
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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Foreign Agricultural Service Washington D.C.



PEAS
FDP 1-60
January 15, 1960



PEA PRODUCTION UP 25 PERCENT

IN 20 REPORTING COUNTRIES

Production of dry edible peas in 20 reporting countries was 13.8 million bags in 1959. This was an increase of 2.8 million bags, or 25 percent, over 1958 and was slightly above the 1950-54 average. Reported production represents only a small part of total world production, which is about 100 million bags annually.

North America:

Production in the United States, the largest producer among the reporting countries, was 4.4 million bags -- up 76 percent from 1958. Increased acreage and generally good weather in Washington and Idaho, the main producing states, were chiefly responsible for the larger 1959 crop. Production of Alaska peas, the largest class grown in the United States was almost double the 1958 crop of 1.4 million bags. U.S. output of all other classes also increased. Canada's 1959 crop of 590,000 bags was down 14 percent from 1958. There was an 11-percent decrease in Canadian acreage.

South America:

Chile and Argentina, produced 500,000 bags of peas last year. This was 12 percent less than 1958 production. Chile produced 300,000 bags, of which about 12 percent goes into export and the rest are used domestically. Both Chile and Argentina harvest their peas when Northern Hemisphere countries are planting.

Europe:

In Europe, 12 reporting countries produced 7 million bags of dry peas -- 11 percent above last year but 9 percent below the 1950-54 average.

The Netherlands, largest European producer, harvested 2.4 million bags, up 17 percent from 1958. The Netherlands has the highest yield per acre of any country in the world and is the world's largest exporter of peas.

The United Kingdom, another large producer, had one of the best crops ever recorded. Despite decreased acreage, the harvest was over a million bags, or 54 percent above 1958 production. The quality was excellent.

French production of 750,000 bags was considerably below the 1958 output, and an estimated 10 percent of the crop is shriveled. Under the circumstances, it is likely that imports will have to be increased.

Belgium produced almost 570,000 bags of peas, a 24-percent increase over the previous year. Harvests in the remaining European countries, all lesser producers, were about the same as in 1958.

Asia:

Japan's 1959 crop of 384,000 bags was up 17 percent from 1958, due to increased acreage in Hokkaido, the most important pea-producing area. Japan exports some of its superior quality peas.

Turkey only recently began to grow peas commercially, but it is gradually increasing production. Between 30,000 and 35,000 bags were produced last year.

Africa:

While Morocco reports a 1959 harvest of over 700,000 bags (almost 60 percent more than the previous year), trade sources say the size of the crop is overestimated and should be about 500,000 bags. Algeria produced 70,000 bags, a slight increase over 1958.

PEAS, DRY EDIBLE: Acreage and production in specified countries,
average 1950-54, annual 1957-59

Continent and country	Acreage			Production				
	1950-54	1957	1958	1959	1950-54	1957	1958	1959
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	acres	acres	acres	acres	bags 1/	bags 1/	bags 1/	bags 1/
North America:								
Canada	48	85	72	64	544	840	688	590
United States	253	272	204	300	3,045	3,326	2,491	4,375
Total	301	357	276	364	3,589	4,166	3,179	4,965
South America:								
Argentina 3/	50	46	58	67	564	182	295	300
Chile 3/	47	39	39	44	288	217	275	201
Total	97	85	97	111	852	399	570	501
Europe:								
Austria	1	1	1	2/	15	20	22	2/
Belgium-Luxembourg	15	23	19	20	283	630	463	573
Finland	21	21	21	2/	268	262	260	2/
France	54	54	54	54	779	948	816	752
Germany, West	25	9	8	6	362	155	124	93
Hungary	93	123	121	2/120	713	1,534	666	2/
Italy	44	32	43	42	271	289	259	284
Netherlands 4/	69	86	72	81	1,805	2,567	2,057	2,401
Spain	87	77	94	94	438	397	507	507
Sweden	32	37	27	21	641	417	276	267
United Kingdom	129	78	72	56	1,996	1,456	757	1,165
Yugoslavia	20	23	20	24	159	227	117	231
Total	590	564	552	539	7,730	8,902	6,324	7,049
Asia:								
Japan	25	37	28	30	269	366	328	384
Turkey	4	3	5	5	22	29	29	33
Total	29	40	33	35	291	395	357	417
Africa:								
Algeria	20	14	13	2/	85	72	68	2/
Morocco	148	91	126	138	791	300	485	772
Total	168	105	139	152	876	372	553	842
Grand total	1,185	1,151	1,097	1,201	13,338	14,234	10,983	13,774

1/ 100-lb. bags. 2/ Office estimate. 3/ Harvest immediately precedes that of Northern Hemisphere.
4/ Includes gray peas.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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